

Message Text

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54

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 H-02 /024 W

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R 130800Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0688

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 5501

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, MILI, TW, RP

SUBJ: VISA WAIVERS FOR ROC PASSPORT HOLDERS, DEPENDENTS OF US
MILITARY

1. AS ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE, THE ASIAN EXCHANGE CENTER
(PHILIPPINE "CONSULATE" IN TAIPEI) HAS NOT BEEN ISSUING VISAS FOR
SOME TIME BY DIRECTION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, MANILA. THIS HAS
CAUSED SOME HARDSHIP TO U.S. MILITARY FAMILIES WHO ARE BEING
TRANSFERRED ON PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TO ONE OF THE U.S.
MILITARY BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES. PHILIPPINE VISAS NECESSARY
FOR AMERICAN DEPENDENTS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY THE
INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED THROUGH THE PHILIPPINE CONSULATE
GENERAL IN HONG KONG OR OTHER PHILIPPINE VISA ISSUING ENTITY.

2. ROC PASSPORT HOLDER DEPENDENTS OF U.S. SERVICEMEN,
HOWEVER, POSE A PARTICULAR PROBLEM AS THE PHILIPPINE FOREIGN
SERVICE WILL NOT RPT NOT PUT A VISA IN A ROC PASSPORT.

3. EMBASSY TAIPEI INQUIRED OF THE ASIAN EXCHANGE CENTER
ABOUT PROCEDURES FOR ENTRY OF COMMAND-SPONSORED DEPENDENTS
INTO THE PHILIPPINES. THE CENTER CABLED MANILA FOR
INSTRUCTIONS. THE REPLY IS QUOTED HEREWITH: "DEPARTMENT
MAY WAIVE VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR DEPENDENT WIFE IF COMING
DIRECTLY FROM TAIWAN PROVIDED REQUEST IS ENDORSED BY USEMBASSY
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MANILA".

4. IT APPEARS WE MAY BE BACK IN THE WAIVER BUSINESS, ALBEIT ON A LIMITED BASIS (ASSUMING DEPENDENTS HOLDING PASSPORTS ACCEPTABLE TO THE FILIPINOS CONTINUE TO OBTAIN VISAS OUTSIDE THE ROC).

5. ACTION REQUESTED: IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF EMBASSY MANILA COULD INQUIRE OF DFA ABOUT SPECIFIC PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED TO OBTAIN WAIVER OF VISA REQUIREMENT FOR ROC (OR OTHER "UNACCEPTABLE", I.E., VIETNAMESE) PASSPORT HOLDER DEPENDENTS OF U.S. SERVICEMEN. EMBASSY MANILA MAY WISH TO SUGGEST THAT DFA CONSIDER REQUIRING THE COMMANDER OF THE GAINING U.S. UNIT IN THE PHILIPPINES TO WRITE TO DFA THROUGH EMBASSY MANILA REQUESTING WAIVER. GAINING UNIT THEN COULD DIRECTLY INFORM U.S. LOSING UNIT IN TAIWAN WHEN WAIVER GRANTED. THIS WOULD CUT AMEMBASSY TAIPEI OUT OF CIRCUIT WHICH SAVES TIME FOR ALL.

6. FYI: AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IS SENDING AMEMBASSY MANILA SEPARATE ONE-TIME MESSAGE REQUESTING PASSPORT AND VISA WAIVER FOR ONE ROC CITIZEN DEPENDENT, HOWEVER, BECAUSE TIME IS CRITICAL IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE.

7. YOUR CONTINUED COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER IS APPRECIATED.

UNGER

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